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STATE FOR AC/CB, NP/CBM, VC/CCB, L/ACV, IO/S
SECDEF FOR OSD/ISP
JOINT STAFF FOR DD PMA-A FOR WTC
COMMERCE FOR BIS (GOLDMAN)
NSC FOR CHUPA
WINPAC FOR LIEPMAN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [CWC](#)

SUBJECT: CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (CWC): WEEKLY WRAP-UP
FOR MAY 28, 2004

This is CWC-67-04.

FY 2005 BUDGET

1. (U) The Director General presented the FY 2005 budget proposal on May 27 (faxed to AC/CB), stating that it was consistent with the objectives set by the Review Conference and maintained the spending power of the TS. The nominal increase is 4.8 percent, which means that, if accepted, annual assessments would increase by 4.4 percent. The entire budget proposal is for 76.7 million euros, with about two thirds going to salaries and other staff costs. New initiatives include a 17 percent increase for verification activities at CWDFs, and an increase from 70 to 80 inspections of OCPF's. A new P-level position is to be given to the International Cooperation and Assistance Division to support national implementation activities. Finally, the guard staff will move from temporary to professional staff, keeping costs down by eliminating one sergeant positions.

OIO REPORT

2. (U) Facilitator Chiho Komuro (Japan) held a May 26 facilitation to discuss the Note by the Director General (EC-37/DG.5) and the Annual Report of the Office of Internal Oversight for the Period from January 1 to December 31, 2003. After a call for general comments on the DG's note, delegations generally noted the slow rate of Technical Secretariat (TS) implementation of OIO recommendations, the

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slow rate of progress in developing and reviewing procedures of the Human Resources Branch (HRB), and the foot dragging of the TS in implementing the EC-36 directive changing implementation of the home leave policy.

3. (U) The TS responded to concerns of delegations by noting that the rate of implementation of OIO recommendations had jumped from 18 to about 40 percent as of late May 2004. The TS also noted that the HRB situation had improved since its new head had been brought on board. Finally, with regard to the EC-directed change in home leave policy, Head of Administration Herb Schulz noted that two days after the EC decision was taken, the DG began implementation. Because the new directive required review by a number of offices, including the Office of the Legal Advisor, it would take several months until all approvals are in place and the directive implemented. Delegations noted dissatisfaction with this response, stressing that the EC decision was not the same as a TS-initiated change in regulations and did not require a time-consuming review process. Canada and Germany asked the TS to provide the expected date of implementation.

4. (U) Brazil complained that it was inappropriate to discuss OIO activities in 2003 until there was a comprehensive report on all of 2002. OIO Director Louati responded that an OIO investigation covers a specific time period that does not necessarily coincide with the calendar year. Louati noted that the DG had approved Brazil's request that the OIO investigate TS recruiting and hiring procedures over the period 2002-2004. Louati also stated that the TS could not drop its program of work at the request of one delegation; proper procedures must be followed.

5. (U) Discussion of the Annual OIO Report focused on the OIO investigation of the theft of a TS camcorder. The report was vague on exactly what had transpired, and delegations were concerned that sensitive information recorded during an inspection might have been lost. They also noted that in addition to the circa 3,000 euro camcorder, an additional 11,880 euros worth of equipment had gone missing. Louati

said that no sensitive information had been lost, because the camcorder had been stolen prior to the start of the inspection. However, because of the sensitive nature of the incident, Louati could not provide more details, much to delegations' frustration.

UNIVERSALITY

16. (U) Facilitator Hela Lahmar (Tunisia) held a May 27 consultation to discuss the Malta and Addis Ababa universality workshops. Ioan Tudor of the External Relations Division reported that 35 delegates attended from 22 countries along with representatives from the Council for Foreign Relations (Egypt), the League of Arab States, and the European Union. Tudor reported that earlier TS mistakes (e.g., timing of the Malta invitations) would not be repeated.

17. (U) Tudor reported that Israel indicated that while it was difficult to defend its nonparticipation in the CWC, the security situation in the region remained the deciding factor, although adherence to WMD-related treaties is an element of the peace process. Israel noted that it had implemented export control procedures consistent with the requirements of the convention. The Comoros Islands reported that it has been in political crisis since 1997 and needed help to implement the CWC. Tudor stated that the TS is considering a bilateral assistance visit and that the TS welcomed support. Finally, Tudor reported that the Egyptian, speaking in his personal capacity, stated that Egypt supports the effort to make his region WMD-free and anticipated dialogue between the TS and Egypt in the near term.

18. (U) Tudor reported TS follow-up actions, which include May 24 letters from the Director General to States not Party advising them of UNSC Resolution 1540 and appealing to them to ratify the CWC as a partial response. The TS intends to work more closely with the POCs identified by a number of SPs, in particular brainstorming possibilities to approach nonmember States. Tudor noted that EU foreign policy chief Solana might address the November 2004 CSP. The TS will initiate/continue its dialogue with Egypt, Lebanon, and Syria, and the TS would like to engage in a joint WMD-related event in the Mideast, with organizations such as the IAEA, UN/Disarmament Affairs, and CTBTO.

19. (U) Delegations responded positively to the TS presentation, noting the small but significant accomplishments of the Malta workshop. They also advised consideration of a change of format, as the one utilized may not necessarily be suitable for future gatherings. Delegations noted the significant participation of Libya, and the useful discussion of what led to Libya's decision to accede to the CWC.

110. (U) Ito sends.
SOBEL